

REMARKS

Applicants elect Group A-2 (unsaturated fatty acids) and B-XI (TGF- $\beta$ ) with traverse. Claims 1, 2, 6-14, 22, 23, 27-35 and 37 read thereon.

With respect to Group A, the Examiner asserts that the species are distinct in view of the different structures thereof. This is not understood. Saturated and unsaturated fatty acids belong to a recognized class of molecules and have a significant common structure, differing primarily in the presence or absence of, for example, at least one double bond. Rejoinder of the two species is requested.

It is understood with respect to the growth factor that upon the determination that the claims are free of the art with respect to TGF- $\beta$ , the remaining growth factors will be examined.

Claims 4, 5, 15-21, 25, 26 and 36 have been canceled solely to reduce the number of claims for examination and are canceled without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (978) 251-3509.

Respectfully submitted,

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